

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 046363

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

UNCLAS STATE 046363

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGIN, HO

SUBJECT: TRANSISTHMIAN PIPELINE IN HONDURAS

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 660

THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A TRANSISTHMIAN PIPELINE IN HONDURAS FROM PUERTO CORTES OR PUERTO CASTILLA TO SAN LORENZO EVOKES NO REACTION IN DEPT. OF STATE OR DEPT. OF COMMERCE EXCEPT FOR POTENTIAL INTEREST BY U.S. FIRMS IN PARTICIPATING IN ITS CONSTRUCTION. SIMILAR TRANSISTHMIAN PIPELINES HAVE BEEN PROPOSED ACROSS COSTA RICA AND PANAMA, BUT AS FAR AS WE KNOW HAVE NOT DEVELOPED BEYOND PROPOSAL STAGE. IT IS UNCLEAR TO US WHAT MINECON BENNATON MEANS BY QUESTION AS TO EFFECT PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION WOULD HAVE ON POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS. KISSINGER

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